

Hikind added, "I'm not losing any sleep over it because my job is too important to me now. As far as I'm concerned it will give me more time to do what I am doing."

Fiala recently made one new appointment to Community Board 3, and may make two more.

Anna Pisano, a Rossville resident and the mother of a fifth-grade student at PS 56, Rossville, said she would like to serve on the education or health committee.

"I'm concerned about overcrowding of schools in elementary and intermediate schools," said Ms. Pisano, a member of the executive board of the PTA and School Leadership Team of PS 56.

Also joining Board 3 are Richard Corno and Matthew Sciarrino, Jr., who are Molinari's appointees.

Corno is borough chief of recreation for the city Parks Department. He previously served seven years on Board 3, from the mid-1980s through the early 1990s. Corno said he will bring knowledge of city government to the board post.

Molinari's appointment to Board 2 is Joseph Aquilino, a member of the Young Republicans of Staten Island and the Republican Richmond County Committee. He is president of the borough chapter of the FIERI National Italian Organization. He said he hopes to work on education, transportation and environmental issues.

Anthony Agridiano was appointed to Board 1 by Molinari.

Councilman Jerome X. O'Donovan (D-North Shore) hasn't made any recent appointments to Board 1, which serves the North Shore. Five board vacancies remain.

The councilmen and Molinari stopped short of saying their new appointees must agree with them on issues.

However, O'Donovan, Fiala and Oddo said their appointees should be sensitive to the needs of developmentally disabled Islanders.

Many on the Island were distressed when Board 3 rejected a proposed group home in Greenridge last month.

Thomas LaManna, O'Donovan's chief of staff, said residences for the developmentally disabled "ought to be approved as a matter of routine. This population does not present issues that impact in any negative way in a community."

Because the homes are funded by the state, the city is not primarily involved. Choosing representatives who reflect an elected official's opinion is a tangible way to be active on the issue, said LaManna.

Oddo may add one more person to Board 2, which oversees the Mid-Island. Before filling the slot, Oddo will discuss the group home issue with the potential member, he said. He has not made any recent appointments.

"You should go in with the mindset that [the homes for the disabled] are necessary and we should embrace them on Staten Island. With that, you should address them on an individual basis," said Oddo. The Mid-Island Republican said each sponsoring agency must be reputable.